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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced today the indictment of Dwight Whorley, age 51, of Richmond, Virginia. The indictment charges Whorley with 60 counts of possession of obscene material. Based on Whorley's prior criminal record, he faces a mandatory minimum term of 10 years imprisonment, and a maximum term of 20 years imprisonment for each count if convicted.

On March 5, 1999, Whorley pled guilty to federal charges of receiving child pornography. On July 23, 1999, a United States District Judge sentenced Whorley to 46 months' incarceration, to be followed by three years of supervision by the United States Probation Office. Whorley was released from custody in April of 2002; however, he was re-arrested in January of 2003 for violating the conditions of his probation. Whorley subsequently pled guilty to the probation violation charges and on April 24, 2003, a United States District Judge sentenced him to an additional 12 months of incarceration to be followed by 12 months of supervision by the United States Probation Office. Whorley was released from custody in January of 2004. Whorley was arrested on April 5, 2004, for violating the terms of his probation yet again. On April 19, 2004, a United States District Judge found Whorley guilty of the violations and sentenced him to an additional 12 months incarceration. The current charges stem from Whorley's April 5th arrest.

The indictment returned today alleges that on March 30, 2004, Whorley used a computer at the Virginia Employment Commission to download at least 20 images of Japanese anime cartoons from the Internet which depicted prepubescent minors engaged in sexually explicit behavior.

Mr. McNulty stated: "Whorley is a repeat sex offender who has demonstrated a continuous disregard for the law. I would like to thank the employees of the United States Probation Office for their diligence in supervising Whorley and frustrating his criminal efforts at every turn."

Also announcing the indictment is Donald Thompson, Special Agent-In-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Richmond Resident Office.

The case is being investigated by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sara E. Flannery.